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Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 DHA-02
EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HEW-06 AID-05 /142 W
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R 062341Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3503
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, SOCI
SUBJECT: 62D ECOSOC--HUMAN RIGHTS, ITEM 3

1. SUMMARY: ON MAY 6 THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE CONCLUDED ITS HUMAN RIGHTS DEBATE WITH STATEMENTS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA, BYELORUSSIAN SSR, PROTUGAL, AFGHANISTAN, BULGARIA, YUGOSLAVIA, YEMEN, EGYPT, JAPAN, VENEZUELA, GDR, CHILE, CANADA, NIGERIA, AND USSR. ONCE AGAIN, MOST INTERVENTIONS FEATURED ENDORSEMENTS OF AN ECONOMIC AS WELL AS POLITICAL APPROACH TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND TWO DELEGATIONS, CANADA AND VENEZUELA, OFFERED SUGGESTIONS FOR STRENGTHENING UN HUMAN RIGHTS MACHINERY. THE ONLY EXCPETION TO THE RELATIVELY NON-CONFRONTATIONAL TONE OF DEBATE WAS THE BULGARIAN ADDRESS WHICH BLASTED THE US, UK AND "OTHER CIRCLES WHICH HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKING A LARGE-SCALE IDEOLOGICAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST SOCIALIST AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES." THE SOVIET SPEECH CONCENTRATED ON DENOUNCING VIOLATIONS IN CHILE, ISRAEL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA AND ON REVIEWING THE HUMAN RIGHTS "ACHIEVEMENTS" OF THE USSR. THE ARABS ACCUSED ISRAEL OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE "OCCUPIED TERRITORIES" AND THE NIGERIAN CRITICIZED COUNTRIES WHICH GIVE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND MILITARY SUPPORT TO
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SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIMES. END SUMMARY.

2. ONCE AGAIN DEBATE ON THIS SUBJECT CONCENTRATED ON CALLS FOR A BALANCED ECONOMIC/SOCIAL AND POLITICAL/CIVIL APPROACH TO HUMAN RIGHTS. THE DELEGATIONS OF AFGHANISTNA, YUGOSLAVIA AND PORTUGUESE DELEGATE ALSO CRITICIZED COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (HRC) CONSIDERATION OF RE-

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PORTED CASES OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, BUT SAID THAT THE LACK OF ACTION ON SUCH REPORTS WAS NOT SURPRISING SINCE, IN HIS VIEW, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAD NOT YET DEFINED ITS COMMITMENT TO PROCEDURES SUCH AS THOSE OF RESOLUTION 1503. THE JAPANESE DELEGATE INDICATED CONCERN OVER THE IDEA OF A "RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT" WHICH HE DEEMED "NOT CONCEPTUALLY CLEAR."

3. IN A DEPARTURE FROM THE RELATIVELY NON-CONFRONTA-TIONAL TONE OF DEBATE, THE BULGARIANDELEGATE BLASTED THE UK, UK AND "OTHER CIRCLES WHICH HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKING A LARGE-SCALE IDEOLOGICAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST SOCIALIST AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES." HE SAID THAT WITHIN THE "DE-VELOPED CAPITALIST COUNTRIES " THE MOST ACTIVE PROPONETS OF A POLITICAL AND CIVIL APPROACH TO HUMAN RIGHTS ARE THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE PROCESS OF RELAXATION OF INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS REVERSED. HE CHARGED THAT "AMERICANS ARE ARE TO TALK BUT NOT FREE FROM SECRET SURVEILLANCE, ENTRAPMENTS, AND OPEN ENCROACHMENTS OF THEIR HOMES." (TEXT OF BULGARIAN STATEMENT POUCHED IO/HR, HEWITT.)

4. THE SOVIET DELEGATE LIMITED HIMSELF TO A FAMILAR CHRONICLING OF ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CHINA, ISRAEL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA, AS DID THE DELEGATES OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE BYELORUSSIAN SSR.

5. THE CANADIAN DELEGATE DELIVERED A STRONG STATE-MENT IN WHICH HE CRITICIZED THE INEFFICACY OF HUMAN
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RIGHTS PROCEDURES AND SUGGESTED THE SETTING UP OF AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP TOSTUDY THESE PROCEDURES (ON THE MODEL OF THE US-SPONSORED WORKING GROUP ONSOCIAL DE-VELOPMENT). THE CANADIAN SUPPORTED CONSIDERATION OF ECONOMIC PROGRESS ALONG WITH CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS BUT WARNED THAT TOO MUCH WEIGHT ON THAT ASPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD NOT BE CONSTRUCTIVE. THE VENEZUELAN DELE-GATE ALSO CRITICIZED THE INEFFICIENCY OF THE HRC AND SUGGESTED THAT LONGER OR ADDITIONAL SESSION MIGHT HELP.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Executive Order: N/A
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SAS ID: 2610455
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Subject: 62D ECOSOC--HUMAN RIGHTS, ITEM 3
TAGS: SHUM, SOCI, ECOSOC, UNHRC
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